

THE DAILY PRESS.

PORTLAND, MAINE.

Thursday Morning, February 18, 1864.

The circulation of the Daily Press is larger than any other daily paper in the State, and double that of any other in Portland.

Terms—\$7.00 per year paid strictly in advance discount of \$1.00 will be made.

Lights and Shadows at the State Capital.

AUGUSTA, Feb. 17, 1864.

It is surprising to witness the sensitiveness of a few—a very few, it is hoped—of the denizens of this goodly little city. Not a word complimentary to the virtues or even ladies of any other place can be spoken, but their feathers rise, and forthwith the compliment is construed into a back-handed compliment at their good name. An instance of this is seen in a communication in the Journal of this city of Monday last, in which the Press receives a bad name, and is accused of making it a "special mission" to slander and misrepresent Augusta and all its doings and surroundings, and is also charged with the ungallant act of "insinuating" and a slur upon the noble women of Augusta. And what, friendly reader, do you suppose was the "head and front" of the Press's offending in this matter, or what had it said to call for such a grave charge? Simply this: the local editor of the Press had made a paragraph of a dozen lines in relation to what the ladies of Portland did for Col. Fessenden's regiment, in the way of hospital stores, to be put on board the steamer which took that band of veterans from their port to New Orleans, winding up with the remark, "Truly, the ladies of our city are full of good works, like Dorcas of old." This was actually construed into an implied "censure and slur upon the ladies" of sister city—Shame on the smallness of soul, or rather the absence of soul, and the wretched spirit of envy which cannot award praise for a good act, or allow others to do so, without a feeling that those not specially mentioned are intentionally slurred and slandered. Not a word has been said in the Press, so far as I have been able to detect in its columns, which by any possibility can be construed into a lack of gallantry to the ladies of this capital, except by a violation of language and a perversion of all common sense such as none but an envious, jealous and narrow minded capable of. I do recollect when your correspondent "Helios" spoke of what the people of Augusta had done for the soldier, and intimated that no other place in the State had done as much in proportion to its means, after showing what Portland had done, you remarked, Mr. Editor, substantially like this: that no doubt the people of Augusta, like those of many other places, had done all in their power in this direction; that if they had done more than others they should thank God for giving them the ability to do more; if they had done less they should thank God for giving them the ability to do less; that in one's contribution so much as the spirit in which it is made, that makes it meritorious. Such is the spirit in which the Press has referred to the good ladies of this city, and it is in this way only that it has sought to "slander and slur" them. Shame, I say again, so jealous and so insignificant that, in such a course, it finds nothing to satisfy but everything to condemn, and to lash it into rage and fury.

The Holts and Waterboro' case was disposed of yesterday in the House, by a resolution unanimously passed, giving the vote to Mr. Bradbury, Democrat. The report of the committee, drawn up and read by the Chairman, Lewis Barker, Esq., was a very able one, and all members of the committee concurred in it. The decision was in accordance with precedents in Mass., and accords with the law as settled in that State and which has prevailed in the British parliament. Having heard the testimony in the case I have never doubted how it would be decided, though I have not felt at liberty to attempt anything like a forecast of the committee's report. The committee have shown that they can be just even at the expense of party considerations, and the House, in its unanimous endorsement of their action, has displayed an instance of fairness and of independence of party spirit truly refreshing to contemplate.

Some gentlemen in the eastern part of the State, having petitioned for a law looking to the extermination of the Canada thistle, the Committee on Agriculture, to whom it was referred, reported leave to withdraw, and the report was accepted, but Mr. Farwell, of Rockland, subsequently succeeded in getting a reconsideration and a recommission of the report, and I am suspicious that a bill will be reported requiring people to cut these pestilential weeds on their premises before the ripening of the seed, and requiring the surveyors of highways to have them cut on the highways, and on private lands within their districts when the owners neglect to do so, the expense of such cutting on the private lands to be assessed upon the owners. This is substantially the law of Michigan, and has resulted in keeping that State free from a pest which proves to be a very serious drawback upon the agricultural prosperity of Canada West and portions of our own country. Some members sneered at the arguments in favor of such a law, and spoke of it as an attempt to "regulate nature"—as though it is not the province of all education and cultivation to improve the condition in which nature would leave, or into which it would bring, everything susceptible of education or cultivation. It was stated—a fact well known to all observing persons—that grounds completely covered with thistles when under cultivation, if laid down to grass will be found comparatively free in two years, which fact, instead of proving the needlessness of legislation as was intended, only shows the effect of cutting before the seed matures in killing out the roots, while the same process prevents the ripened seed, at a later period, from being wafted broadcast over large tracts of country by the aid of the balloon-like appendages to which it is attached.

The printing and binding contracts were laid before the Senate yesterday. The latter was approved and sent down for concurrence; the former was delayed until adjournment on a motion—resisted by some members of the committee—of Mr. Cram, of Cumberland, to lay it on the table for two days, that Senators might examine it, he contending that if they should do so they would see the propriety of recommending, with a view to remove some ambiguity in relation to the meaning of certain technical terms which have heretofore led to misunderstanding and dispute. It seems there is a difference of understanding in relation to what constitutes a "token" of sixteen octavo pages, in doing press-work, the contract recognizing 250 sheets with eight printed pages on each side as a token, while some of the bids were made upon the presumption that 250 sheets, with a form of sixteen pages worked on each side, constituted a token. Out of this misunderstanding has grown so much difficulty in settling accounts that the Executive Council that the disputed question

ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

On the first page—Dr. Hays' Analysis of Ale Porter, and Beer.

On the fourth page—The Dying Soldier poetry; Miscellaneous.

Rhode Island has filled her quota.

John Morrissey, the pugilist, is sick beyond hope of recovery.

The Machias Union says that shipping boards are now selling in that market at \$20 per thousand.

We acknowledge the receipt of seventy-three new subscribers to our Weekly since the last issue.

A large tenement house, belonging to the Great Falls, N. H., Manufacturing Co., was destroyed by fire Wednesday morning.

Two persons were killed and several badly injured by a boiler explosion in Schuylerville a few days since.

A Massachusetts Judge has decided that a man has no right to punish a hired boy.

Bussell's Wool Factory, about two miles out of Bangor, on the Levant road, was destroyed by fire on Thursday evening last, as we learn from the Whig.

It is said that Col. Woodman's regiment of cavalry now in camp at Augusta is to be attached to Gen. Burnside's expeditionary corps.

Col. Freeman McGilvery, of the First Maine Light Artillery, is now in Augusta for the purpose of recruiting for the batteries in his command.

Rev. Horatio Stebbins has received by the hand of Mr. James Irish one hundred and thirty-one dollars, the sum being a contribution from the citizens of Hartford for the benefit of the U. S. Sanitary Commission.

Elbridge G. Parkhurst, the keeper of a public house in Venice, has been on trial at Bangor, charged with an assault with an intent to kill Albert B. Perkins. The jury brought in a verdict on Tuesday of guilty.

Andrew Peters, Esq., one of the leading business men of Hancock Co., died at his residence in Ellsworth, on Monday evening last, at the advanced age of 80 years. He is the father of Attorney General Peters of Bangor.

A great Metropolitan Fair in aid of the Sanitary Commission is to open in New York on the 28th of March, and the ladies connected with it make a strong appeal to the farmers of the country to send in contributions of their products in aid of this noble charity.

The latest intelligence from St. Louis says the utmost activity prevails in all the ship and navy yards at that place, and that upon the opening of navigation, will be seen one of the largest fleets ever concentrated on the Mississippi. This fleet will rendezvous at Cairo and Memphis, under command of Admiral Porter.

Mr. Salsbury, the Senator from Delaware, who disgraced his State and the Senate by his drunkenness at the last session, said in that body on Saturday last, that "he would never consent to equality, either political or social with the negro." If the pardon of either is to be asked for the equality, it certainly should be that of the negro. The sober negro is morally and socially, if not politically, head and shoulders above a drunken Senator.

Harper's Weekly condenses in a small space the argument which sustains the right of soldiers to vote. It says: "The Union soldiers are merely citizens of the United States fighting for their country and its government; shall their patriotism and self-sacrifice be discounted? Shall every loyal man who volunteers and marches to battle understand that his going practically strengthens the enemy behind him? This is a common sense way of putting the argument, which cannot fail to work conviction."

George Thompson in a speech at the close of Miss Dickinson's lecture in Boston last, America cast him from her twenty-nine years ago as a vile and pestilent man, a disturber of the public peace, as an enemy to the Union. He was denounced by the President in an address to Congress. But said Mr. Thompson, I am exchanged I have not wandered off from the point on which I then stood, but have preserved it without variances or shadow of turning. When I was cast off these were my last words, "America will yet witness another revolution. The first great noble one for independence; the second, holier, more benign, more blessed, more impartial, will be for liberty. But you, the people of Massachusetts, will live, and I pray God I may live to see the day when the principle for which I am hated, persecuted, and banished, will be the principle of the Old Bay State." I am no enemy of America now! I have been an all but idolatrous admirer of your country. Bring me an American here to night and place him foot to foot with me, and let us see who is most American in feeling, in hope in aspiration, in heart. Thirty years ago I saw this dark cloud upon the horizon. Nothing that has taken place in your country has surprised me but this—namely, your enthusiasm for the cause for which I pleaded apparently in vain.

AFFECTING INCIDENT OF A STAGE RIDE. A correspondent of the St. Louis Democrat, in describing a stage ride from Sedalia to Springfield, Mo., during the cold term in January, when the mercury stood fourteen degrees below zero, relates the following touching incident which befell one of the female passengers who had an infant with her:

Every five miles we stopped to warm, and at each place, until within about five miles of her destination, the mother took the babe, and the infant of fifteen months, into the different houses. It was nearly 4 o'clock in the morning, and we were within five miles of Bolivar, when the stage drew up at a rude cabin, where the driver informed us we could get warm, and that we would not halt again before reaching town.

I got out and assisted the lady to alight. When we entered the cabin, I noticed that she was not carrying the child, and asked her where it was.

"I have wrapped it up and laid it on the seat, as I was afraid it the wind blew on it it might catch cold," was her reply.

I told her she had better bring it in, as it would certainly freeze. She said, "No, it is warm and will sleep." We remained in the house half an hour before the fire was made, no one being out of bed when we went in. We drew chairs to the cold fire-place and awaited the kindling, which in time followed.

The child was seated and soon gave out its grateful offering of heat. The child remained wrapped up; it was quiet. His mother repeated, "He is asleep yet." He was asleep—he is asleep yet—the child was frozen to death, and all that was left of the child was a short history of his case, as he obtained of Death spared him the colds of earth—he was frozen into Paradise.

Letter from the State Capital.

To the Editor of the Press.

AUGUSTA, Feb. 17.

The following military commissions have been issued since my last:

Baker's District of Columbia Cavalry.—Thomas C. Webster, of Gorham, Captain Co. 1; Andrew M. Benson, of Oldtown, Captain Co. 2; Robert F. Dyer, of Augusta, Captain Co. 3; Sylvanus R. Jackson, of Foxcroft, 2d Lieutenant Co. 4.

First Regiment of Cavalry.—Rev. George W. Bartlett, of Litchfield, Chaplain.

Eighth Regiment Infantry.—Rev. J. E. M. Wright, of Camden, Chaplain; Warren F. Thompson, of Farmington, 1st Lieutenant Co. A; Eben H. Farum, of Wilton, 2d Lieutenant Co. A; Henry E. Tozier, of Waterville, 2d Lieutenant Co. I; John L. Taylor, of Hampden, 1st Lieutenant Co. K; Hiram N. Parker, of Glenburn, 2d Lieutenant Co. K.

Eleventh Regiment Infantry.—William H. H. Andrews, of Newburg, Quartermaster.

Seventeenth Regiment Infantry.—Edward H. Crie, of Portland, 2d Lieutenant Co. E.

Twentieth Regiment Infantry.—William W. Morrill, of Brunswick, Captain Co. A; Howard L. Prince, of Cumberland, 1st Lieutenant Co. A; Henry Sidelinger, of Walboro', Captain Co. K.

Official notice has been received of the following discharges: Silas F. Strout, Chaplain 9th regiment, resigned; Charles A. Clark, Adjutant 6th regiment, discharged for physical disability; John Ham, Quartermaster 11th regiment, resigned; 1st Lieutenant Stephen M. Eaton, Co. K, 12th regiment, discharged for promotion in Signal Corps; Frank W. Haskell, Adjutant 19th regiment, discharged for disability; Capt. Elsiea Bescoe, Co. A, 20th regiment, discharged for disability as 2d Lieutenant Co. I, having never been mustered on his commission as Captain; 1st Lieutenant Simon F. Pottle, 2d Co. F, 6th regiment, discharged for physical disability.

The prospects for filling the new regiments is very flattering, as enlistments are going forward rapidly. Baker's cavalry has filled the five companies authorized to a maximum.

Yours truly, HELIOS.

MAINE LEGISLATURE.

AUGUSTA, Feb. 10, SENATE.

Mr. Cram, from the Committee on Manufactures, reported bill an act to encourage manufactures, which was read and assigned.

The bill exempts manufacturers from taxes and penalties and remissions from tax for ten years, where the amount of capital invested shall exceed \$200,000, provided, the towns or cities in which such manufactures are established, or refineries are located shall, in a legal manner, give their assent to such exemption.

A resolve making a conditional grant of land to the Westbrook Seminary was read and assigned.

Mr. Spring offered an amendment to the amendments offered by Mr. Sanborn, providing that when a town's quota is full a man may enlist where he pleases. The amendment was adopted, and the amendments of Mr. Sanborn, as amended, were adopted, and the bill passed to be engrossed.

Mr. Spring, by leave, laid on the table, bill an act to amend chapter 102 of the special laws of 1862 relating to the Registry of Deeds for Cumberland county. Referred to the joint delegation from Cumberland county.

Finally passed—Resolving establishing the valuation of certain towns and plantations in Arrostook county; resolve for the benefit of Charles A. Clark; resolve in favor of Henry Burns.

Resolved to be enacted—An act to incorporate the Baskageham Dam Company.

Mr. Barker, of Stetson, from the Committee on Elections, reported the following:

Resolved, That Henry K. Bradbury, having been duly elected as Representative from the classed towns of Waterboro' and Hollis, be entitled to a seat in this House.

The resolve, after a few remarks from Mr. Farwell, of Rockland, was unanimously adopted, and, subsequently, the presence of Mr. Bradbury was announced, and he was conducted to the Council Chamber, where he was duly qualified.

On motion, of Mr. Barker, of Stetson, the Committee on Pay Roll was directed to make up the pay of Henry A. Usher, to and including to-morrow.

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The bill authorizing a further extension of time to the European and North American Railway was taken up, and Mr. Woodman, of Portland, pressed the House at length upon the subject.

The Tenth and last of the Mercantile Library course of Lectures was delivered last evening by Rev. E. H. Chapin. His subject, "Europe and America," led him to speak of what he had seen and heard during his visit in Europe—of its natural advantages, its national position, its manufacturing and artistic improvements. He spoke of the condition of our country in a powerful manner, trusting we should come out of this furnace purified from that which has been a perpetual source of national bickerings. The lecture abounded in passages of impassioned eloquence, and for elegance of diction and beauty and sublimity of language and thought it is seldom equalled. He was frequently and rapturously applauded.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

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CANCER AND CANCER SYRUP.

Surgeon of the Union.

FOR THE CURE OF Cancer, Cancer, Salt Rheum, old Sores, Erysipelas, Scrofula, Tumors, Ulcers, Sold by H. H. HAY, Druggist, Agent for Portland and vicinity. dec21 eodkwm

The Patent Belie Monte Skirt.

A full assortment of this new style Skirt, at ANTHONY'S, 100 Broadway, and Corset Depot, under Mechanics' Hall.

A BAD BREATH.—The greatest curse the human family is heir to. How many lives has it separated—how many friends forever parted. The subject is too delicate; your nearest friend will not mention it, and you are ignorant of the fact yourself. To effect a radical cure, use the *ELIXIR OF A THROAT AND LUNGS*. It is a delicious medicine, removing all tan, pimples and freckles, leaving the skin soft and white. Price 10 cents. For sale by H. H. Hay, agent for Maine, and all druggists. nov21 eodkwm

If you are going to the West, South, or North-West, procure through Tickets at Lett's Union Ticket Office, No. 31 Exchange Street, where you may have a choice of routes at the lowest rates of fare, and obtain all the necessary information. Feb. 18, 1864. T.H.S. & W.

PORTLAND OBSERVATORY.—The year for signaling vessels at the Portland Observatory expired January 1, 1864. Signals will be discontinued, and will be called upon to renew their subscriptions. Subscribers should call on or send to the Observatory, 100 Broadway, N. B. ENOCH MOODY.

To cure a cough, hoarseness, or any disease of the throat and lungs, successfully treated by Dr. H. H. Hay, Portland, and by druggists generally. Jan21 eodkwm

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MINIATURE ALMANAC. Thursday, February 18. Sun rises, 6:52. High water, 1:18. 3d Sun sets, 5:57. Length of days, 10:45. Thermometer, 3 o'clock A. M. 10 deg.

